

# School News

## February 2024



### SAPA News

A big thank you to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class for hosting the Cake sale last week - there were some amazing cakes and cookies. Great British Bake Off watch out we have some great bakers in the school. We raised a fantastic €341.70.

The legendary St Andrews Annual Quiz takes place this Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March in Malahide Cricket Club. Hosted by Karl Deeter it promises to be a fun night. A table of 4 is €40 payable on the night. We will also have offers on delicious wines along with grazing platters all available on the night and helping to raise further funds for the school.

Movie night will take place on the 26th April - we will be reaching out to the classes for their top movie picks when we come back after the Easter break.

Our next big event is the May Fair on the 26th May - a great family day out and lots of fun. We will have our usual games, raffle, teas, coffee and cakes, toys and books stall, BBQ and tuck shop and a few more surprises on the day. The craft stalls will also be returning so if you (or anyone you know) are interested in a space please let us know. We will always need as many volunteers as possible to help run this event - so watch out on your class WhatsApp group for opportunities to help. Don't be shy, it's great fun!

The school Fun Run will be returning - it was last held in 2019 and for those of you who remember it, it's a really fun event that encourages everyone to join in and run or walk the course. Held in Malahide Castle, starting and finishing at the Cricket Club we will have two routes - 2k & 5K. Mums, Dads, GrandParents, Aunties and Uncles are all encouraged to take part. We will have a BBQ after in the Cricket Club to celebrate everyone's achievements. We are planning to hold this in June to celebrate the end of the school year. For this event to take place we really need sponsorship to help with event registration; start and finish timing, advertising etc so if your company is able to help bring this fantastic event to life please get in touch with your class rep. More details to follow....

An action packed few months ahead!

## Student Council

The first meeting of our newly elected Student Council took place this week. Congratulations to all those who took part in the elections this year and we look forward to hearing lots of great suggestions from the Student Council on how we can make St. Andrews even better!



## Soccer Team

Well done to the boys' soccer team on their first match this week against Drumcondra National School. Everyone played really well, displaying the skills they have been practising at training and the team fought hard to secure a win in their first match!



# Cosy Day



# Cake Sale





## Around The Classes

**Junior Infants** have had a fun-filled February. The first theme they explored in Play and Learn was dinosaurs. They played with dinosaurs in small world, did role-play in the dinosaur museum, made dinosaur fossils out of clay, made paper plate dinosaurs and completed lots of dinosaur puzzles and activities. They then moved on to the theme of Gardaí. In the role-play zone they explored lots of garda equipment, solved some crimes and took on the role of garda and criminal to act out different scenarios. They played out these scenarios further in small world and they practised using their new garda related vocabulary in the oral language zone. They finished this theme with a visit from Garda Cian who taught them about the role of the garda, showed them his equipment and let them sit in the garda car. He even let them have a go of turning on the sirens! They also had a visit from Ali and Greg from Fingal Prosper who came in to teach them some Lámh signs. They are practising them a lot and can't wait to learn more over the coming weeks!



**Senior Infants** have had a lovely February! The class have learned lots this month about the season of spring and minibeasts. The children made their own habitats for different minibeasts in small world and learned about conditions each of them need to survive. They learned about the life cycle of the butterfly and the children helped make butterflies and caterpillars for their class display. They are working on making their own butterfly lifecycle to bring home too! The children did some lovely writing about their favourite things about spring. They have been learning about the number 9 and length in maths. The class did some measuring in the classroom and learned how to make an estimate! The children have been continuing to practise lines for their play 'The Three Little Pigs' - they are super! Senior Infants are looking forward to another great month ahead!





Wow, what a busy February it has been in **1<sup>st</sup> Class**! The class have had super fun continuing with their theme of "Play" but adding a lot more learning to our days with the addition of St. Brigid's Day and Chinese New Year. They had great fun making St. Brigid's Day crosses and learning all about her life and her great work. To celebrate Chinese New Year, the class dedicated an entire day to learning all about the country of China, the traditions surrounding the new year's celebration and the culture of the Chinese people. They were so lucky to get a lesson on how to use chop sticks from their very own expert Simeon! They found out what our zodiac animals were and did some pretty cool Chinese writing. In science they were experimenting with magnets and learning all about the magnetic north and south poles.....and not the place where Santa lives! The class made butterflies and using paperclips, they used the magnets to make them fly! Some people made them dance, twist and turn too! In maths lessons, they did a lot of work on 3D shapes and in Gaeilge the class enjoyed becoming weather reporters during our "Aimsir" lessons.



February, a short but by no means quiet month for **2<sup>nd</sup> Class**. They started the month off with a bang learning all about the different celebrations around the world at this time of year. They had lots of fun learning all about Mardi Gras making beautiful masks and created a colourful display packed with interesting information about Carnival in New Orleans. They created their very own Flat Stanley's, wrote letters to their recipients and are almost ready to post their Stanley's off on their big adventures. They are so excited to hear and read all the news when they return to us. The class focused on Gaeilge topics "An tEarrach" agus "éadaí" this month. They created their own rain gauges to measure the rainfall over the midterm. In maths they had so much fun with fractions dividing up an imaginary chocolate bar and pizza, needless to say it was an imaginary feast for all. Swimming, GAA and rugby have kept the class fit and healthy, not to forget the amazing Afro-beat dance moves the class have learnt in music class to help find the pulse of a song. Congratulations to Sam Bennett and Annabelle Carroll who were chosen as the second class representatives for the Student Council. Well done to all who put themselves forward. Spring is on its way and 2<sup>nd</sup> class cannot wait!





**3<sup>rd</sup> Class** have been very busy for the month of February. They have had a lovely time learning about "éadaí" in Gaeilge where they have had the chance to play some games, watch a fashion show and create their own piece of clothing for their "líne éadaigh". In SESE, the children have been designing and creating their own magnetic cars. They are hoping to have a race at the end of the week to test out their models. With spring in the air, they have been busy creating some colourful pieces of artwork. Using blank CDs and paint, the children printed flowers onto coloured card. They all turned out great! Third class also had the opportunity to take part in Gaelic football and rugby this month. To celebrate Valentine's Day, the children made geometric hearts inspired by the work of Piet Mondrian. With World Book Day just around the corner, they are all very excited to dress up as a character from their favourite book and test their knowledge of some well-known authors. Well done third class on another fantastic month!



**4<sup>th</sup> Class** enjoyed the short month of February with the mid-term break in between. They covered a range of different topics across the curriculum and took a lot from each of them. Multiplication and division was our focus in maths this month, looking at long multiplication in particular. In English, they looked at informative writing and reading comprehension, learning about the Amazon rainforest as a case study as well as a range of different countries and animals looking at their facts and figures.



In SESE, forestry was our theme this month, looking at how forests have changed historically in Ireland and the wider world, and how important they are to our lives and the contribution to a healthy biodiverse landscape. They linked this to their art work, drawing forests and campsites.

In PE, they played handball in small teams, while also taking part in the school cross country and soccer outings. It's great to see the children so involved and eager to take part. In music, they explored more traditional Irish songs both as Gaeilge and through English. They enjoyed looking at the songs being performed live and the range of trad instruments being used such as the bodhrán, banjo, violin and the tin whistle. To complete the month, 4<sup>th</sup> class were helping with the bake sale for our cosy Friday and

loved getting to wear their cosy clothes into school.



**5th Class** worked really hard this month. They learned about the force of friction in science, and made their own zip lines. In English, they practised using the figurative language technique of onomatopoeia, and made onomatopoeic Pop Art in the style of Roy Lichtenstein. During the course of January and February, the children did a lot of research on Italy, The Renaissance, and Ancient Rome. They worked together in groups to create projects on these topics, and the results were excellent. Before midterm break, 5<sup>th</sup> class brightened up their corridor and classroom with some lovely heart art for Valentine's Day.



This month **6<sup>th</sup> Class** have been making great progress with their class novel 'The Guns of Easter' which has linked in with the theme of World War 1 in history. They further explored the theme through poetry and song. The class read Wilfred Owen's poem 'Dulce et Decorum est' and sang 'The Green Fields of France' giving them a great insight into the the harsh realities of WW1. In art, they painted and glossed their clay clock creations and have begun some lovely cross stitch pieces.



They made excellent progress with their running practice and Ms. Hoffman was delighted to have some pupils run their first Malahide Junior Parkrun last Sunday. There are some very talented athletes in the class, with Alex Wallace being first finisher on the morning! All the training should put us in good stead for the upcoming schools' cross country event.

The pupils showed great organisational skills and group work whilst putting the finishing touches to their projects on cities of the world. They're looking forward to presenting them to the class this week.



## February Anti - Bullying Topic

In February all the classes discussed the topic of staying safe online. This included keeping yourself safe online and also how to treat others online.

This tied in with Safer Internet Day which took place on Tuesday 6th February.

our internet and web use should be..



**safe**  
**smart**  
**kind**